

10/585259

RJP/cms 6565-76130-01 06/29/06 93231-133

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JUN 2006  
EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV 68293731 US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: June 30, 2006

POLYMER HAVING INTERCONNECTED PORES FOR  
DRUG DELIVERY AND METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5           A bicontinuous microemulsion of water, a monomer, and a surfactant  
copolymerizable with the monomer is polymerized to form a transparent and porous  
polymer defining interconnected pores. The pores may have a pore diameter in the  
range of 10 to 100 nm. The microemulsion may further include a drug such that, when  
the polymer is formed, the drug is dispersed in one or both of the polymer and the pores  
10 and is releasable therefrom when the polymer is in contact with a liquid. The drug may  
be an ophthalmic drug and the polymer can be used to form drug delivery devices, such as  
contact lenses and artificial corneas.